HOW MUCH TIME HAS PASSED ...?
KING'S GAME
ORIGIN

YUUJI AND I HAVE BEEN WANDERING THROUGH THE LIMESTONE CAVES.
WHEN WE HIT A DEAD END, WE TURN BACK...
...AND TRY AN-OTHER PATH.
IF THAT WAY'S BLOCKED, WE GO BACK AND TRY AGAIN.
THE BATTERIES ARE GETTING LOW.
IF THEY RUN OUT, WE'RE SCREWED!
WE CAN'T STUMBLE AROUND IN THE DARK!
RATTLE
RATTLE
I KNOW
LET'S HURRY.
RIGHT.
WOBBLE
AAH!

WE SHOULD STILL BE OKAY, THOUGH.
YUUJI'S ANKLE SPRAIN IS PRETTY BAD. HE WON'T BE ABLE TO WALK MUCH LONGER.
FACTOR-ING IN THE TIME TO CLIMB DOWN THE MOUN-TAIN...
...WE NEED TO BE OUT OF HERE BY 10 P.M..
HEY, YUUJI.
WHAT TIME DO YOU THINK IT IS?
IF ONE OF US JUST HAD A WATCH. WE COULD'VE KEPT TRACK OF THE TIME!
HA!/ HA!...
NORMALLY MY STOMACH WOULD BE THE ONLY CLOCK I NEED.
DUNNO...I WAS KNOCKED OUT AND ALL.

DAMNIT, AT THIS RATE WE'RE BOTH DEAD.
I'VE GOTTA DO SOMETHING--
I'D SAY IT'S BEEN MAYBE FIVE HOURS
..SINCE WE SWAM ACROSS THE LAKE.
WHEW
THAT MEANS IT'S ABOUT NINE AT NIGHT.
TIME'S RUNNING OUT.
LIGHT..
IT'S A WAY OUT!
DAMNIT, AN-OTHER DEAD--

KAZUNARI! YOU'D BETTER NOT BE JOKING!
NOPE, THIS WAY...
SPLISH
SPLISH

SMACK
RRGH!
DAMN IT, WE FINALLY FOUND AN EXIT...
WAY WE CAN SCALE THAT WALL.
SHIT!

HELP!
IS ANYONE OUT THERE?!
HEELLLLLP!
SILENCE
AND THEY NEVER DID SEEM WORRIED ABOUT THE WOODS AND MOUNTAINS.
WE BOTH SLIPPED AWAY WITHOUT BEING SEEN.
NOTHING.
C'MON, THE VILLAGE IS PACKED WITH COPS!

...ABOUT PEOPLE TRYING TO ESCAPE TO THE CITY.
THEY'RE MORE CONCERNED ...

THAT, AND THEY DON'T WANT THE PUBLIC TO GET WIND OF THINGS.
PLUS--
THAT'S WHY THEY'VE GOT THE GATE SO HEAVILY GUARDED

...ALL THOSE PEOPLE WOULDN'T HAVE DIED!
IF THEY'D JUST CAUGHT THE DAMN KING...
THOSE BIG-MOUTHS ARE ALL USELESS.
HEH--AS FAR AS THE COPS ARE CONCERNED, IT'D MAKE THINGS EASIER IF THE KING KILLED US BOTH.
THEN THEY COULD CROSS OFF TWO MORE SUSPECTS.

CALM DOWN, YUUJI.
HOW CAN I?!
NOW WE'RE GONNA DIE BECAUSE THEY COULDN'T DO THEIR JOBS!
THERE'S STILL TIME WE'LL MAKE IT!
NO THERE'S NOT! NOT TO FIND ANOTHER EXIT AND MAKE IT BACK!
ERR...
I'M NOT EVEN MAD AT YURI-SAN. IT'S ALL THE KING'S FAULT!
THUMP
HE'S GOING TO KILL EVERY LAST VILLAGER!
YURI-SAN ONLY TRIED TO OFF US BECAUSE OF HIM!
YUUJI..
SMACK

DAMMIT, IF I EVER GET MY HANDS ON THE KING, I'LL BEAT THE LIVING HELL OUT OF HIM...
TOSS
CLACK
BLOOP
...THEN DRAG HIS ASS STRAIGHT TO THE COPS!
KSSHHH

SOUNDS

I HEAR WATER FLOWING FROM THE OUTSIDE...
HMM?
WHAT'S UP?
THERE'S ANOTHER WAY OUT OF HERE.
YEAH? WHERE?
BEAM
THE TUNNEL THIS RIVER FLOWS THROUGH.

I CAN HEAR IT THROUGH THE HOLE UP THERE.
A FLOW THIS SIZE PROBABLY JOINS UP WITH THE RIVER.
WITH THAT HOLE RIGHT HERE, THERE'S A STRONG CHANCE THIS TUNNEL HEADS OUTSIDE.
PROBABLY PRETTY CLOSE-BY, TOO.
KAZUNARI... THAT'S REALLY RISKY.
WE DON'T KNOW WHAT'S INSIDE THAT TUNNEL...
...OR IF WE'LL BE ABLE TO GET ABOVE WATER TO BREATHE
SHA PAA PAA PAA
PLUS THE CURRENT'S TOO STRONG.
I KNOW IT'S RISKY...
...BUT WHAT CHOICE DO WE HAVE?

IF WE JUST SIT HERE, THE KING WILL GET US...
. .AND WE DON'T HAVE TIME TO TURN BACK AGAIN, RIGHT?
SHAA
Y-YEAH , BUT...
GULP
SHAA
SHAAAAAA
N-NO WAY!
THE FLASH-LIGHT WILL GO OUT IN THE WATER.
THIS IS IN-SANE!
SHAKE
SHAKE
EASY, MAN
YOU'RE SITTING THIS ONE OUT.

I'M NOT GONNA PUT YOUR LIFE IN DANGER--
THEN LET ME GO!
NO!
YOU'RE GONNA GO ALONE?
YEAH, THERE'S NO POINT IN BOTH OF US TRYING
KAZU-NARI..
JUST HANG TIGHT.
WHEN I MAKE IT OUTSIDE, I'LL PULL YOU UP THROUGH THE HOLE.
YOU'RE BIGGER THAN ME.
PLUS YOUR ANKLE'S SHOT.
I'VE GOT A BETTER CHANCE.

KAZUNARI... IF THINGS GET TOO BAD, COME BACK.
WILL DO.
RELAX, I DON'T PLAN ON DROWNING.
HOLD THE FLASHLIGHT AND LIGHT THE TUNNEL FOR ME AS LONG AS YOU CAN.
SPLASH
SHINE
ザバ SPLASH
ザバ SPLASH

NO TIME LEFT.
GOTTA TAKE MY CHANCES!
SPLASH
GASP!
KAZU-NARI...
THROB

DAMN...
THROB
THROB
IF I DON'T MAKE IT, YUUJI'S DEAD TOO.
I HAVE TO GET THROUGH.
GLUB
GLUB
GLUB
I CAN'T TURN AROUND.
I'LL SWIM UNTIL MY LUNGS GIVE OUT!
GLUB
GLUB
GLUB

I'M STILL NOT THERE?!
CALM DOWN. IT HASN'T EVEN BEEN TEN SECONDS.
DON'T PANIC.
BLOOP
BLOOP

HOW LONG HAS IT BEEN? HOW FAR HAVE I SWUM?
SHIT, I'M HITTING MY LIMIT...
I'VE GOT MAYBE 20 SECONDS LEFT
KSSSHHH
CRUNCH
WHAM
GHACK
OH NO--
BLOOOP

NATSUKO... FORGIVE ME... I...
C...N'THOLD... BREATH... ANYMORE...
THAT'S IT...
WAVER
GLERP
YUUJI... SORRY...
NATSUKO...
SHE'S GONNA BAWL HER EYES OUT WHEN SHE HEARS I'M DEAD.
SHE CAN BE A REAL CRYBABY.

GOTTA GIVE IT TO HER...
OH YEAH... THE STUFFED RABBIT...
KAZUNARI!
NATSUKO...

GLUB
HGCK!
SPLASH

GHAAAH!
HUFF
HAAAH
ZSSSHH
SPLISH
SPLISH
HAAH...

HA... HA HA HA...
SPLISH
SPLISH
I...I MADE IT..
PLOOSH
WHEW!

I CAN'T BELIEVE I SLIPPED THROUGH SUCH A NARROW TUNNEL
I'LL HAVE TO MAKE THIS WORK!
DASH
GOTTA SAVE YUUJI!
YAK
GRASP
ぎゅっ!!
TURN

KAZUNARI, YOU'RE THE MAN!
WE'LL CELE-BRATE LATER.
LET'S GET HOME!
R-RIGHT, DO YOU THINK WE'VE GOT ENOUGH TIME?
WE'RE NOT OUT OF THE WOODS UNLESS WE FOLLOW THE KING'S ORDER...
.. BEFORE MIDNIGHT!

SATURDAY
AUGUST
13,
10:33
P.M.

I'M NOT SURE, BUT I THINK SO! LET'S HURRY!
R-RIGHT!
THUD
THUD
TCH!

YUUJI, I SEE THE VILLAGE!
WE'RE ALMOST THERE!
YUUJI!
YOU OKAY?!
SHIT...
MY FOOT... IT'S TOAST.

THE VILLAGE IS RIGHT THERE!
YOU BASTARD!
YOU CAN'T QUIT ON ME NOW!
TIME'S ALMOST UP.
!
KAZUNARI. ..LEAVE ME. GO.
B-BUT I...
I CAN'T EVEN MOVE IT.

WHA...
I SWEAR I WON'T RESENT YOU OR HAUNT YOU OR ANYTHING.
I PUT ALL THE BLAME FOR THIS ON THE KING.
I WILL DRAG YOUR ASS IF I HAVE TO!
GO TO HELL! I AM NOT LEAVING YOU BEHIND!
KAZU-NARI-
SHUT YOUR PIE HOLE AND USE WHATEVER STRENGTH YOU HAVE LEFT TO WALK!
HUG

YOU ARE NOT DYING ON ME!
WHERE THE HELL HAVE YOU TWO BEEN?!
YOU'RE THE ONLY ONES WHO HAVEN'T FOLLOWED THE ORDER!
IT'S THREE MINUTES TIL MIDNIGHT!
WE MADE IT!

I KNOW, I'LL EXPLAIN LATER!
DASH
HURRY, YUUJI!
OH.. OKAY
THUMP
TWO MINUTES TO SPARE...
SLUMP...

PHEW...
WE DID IT, YUUJI.
HELL... YEAH...
I'LL BE HONEST.. FOR A MINUTE THERE ..I THOUGHT WE WERE HOSED
SAME HERE, MAN.. SAME HERE.
HA HA...
YUP...
EXHAUSTION... SCRATCHES...
CLENCH
WE... WE DID IT...
BUT NO PUNISHMENT... I'M ALIVE
HAAAH
HEE

KAZU-
NARI...
THANK
YOU.
LURCH
YOU
SAVED
MY LIFE.
"THANK
YOU"?
THAT'S
A NEW
ONE.
HEY NOW,
EVEN I'LL
THANK
SOMEONE
WHEN
THEY'VE
EARNED
IT.
WHEN
I'M TRULY
GRATE-
FUL...

GRATEFUL, HUH...?
WOBBLE
フラ、
WHAT...

WHAT ARE YOU TWO DOING HERE...?
WOBBLE
ESCAPING THAT CAVE SHOULD HAVE BEEN IMPOSSIBLE...!
GAAAAH